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S O E HAL	Inge Patent Application of:)	
FINT & TRAD	m TAKEDA <u>et al</u> .) Examiner	Not yet assigned
	Application Number: 10/665,553) Group Art Unit	2874
ż	Filed: September 22, 2003)	
£	For: SPLICE MODULE WITH OPTICAL FIBER ALIGNING PASSAGEWAY DETERMINING INSCRIBED CIRCLE OF REDUCED RADIUS))))	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith copies of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified) for consideration and to be made of record by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) in the above-captioned patent application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these references and that the Examiner indicate that the enclosed reference have been considered in this application by returning a copy of the form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609.

The attached documents were cited by the European Patent Office in the European Search Report (ESR) mailed December 19, 2003, in a counterpart application, and relevance of each reference is indicated on the enclosed copy of the ESR.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), Applicants believe that this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fees are believed due as a result of this submission. However, in

the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the PTO, please charge any such variance to undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375.

Dated: January 30, 2004

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JBA/dh

Enclosures

James R. Arpin Registration No. 33.

BAKER BOTTS

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449 (Modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV_7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE								ATTY. DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO.								
TP	E									074913.0102		10/6	665,553			
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(Use several sheets if necessary)								Jun Takeda <u>et</u> <u>al</u> .								
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS																
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		European Search Report, dated December 19, 2003														
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.																